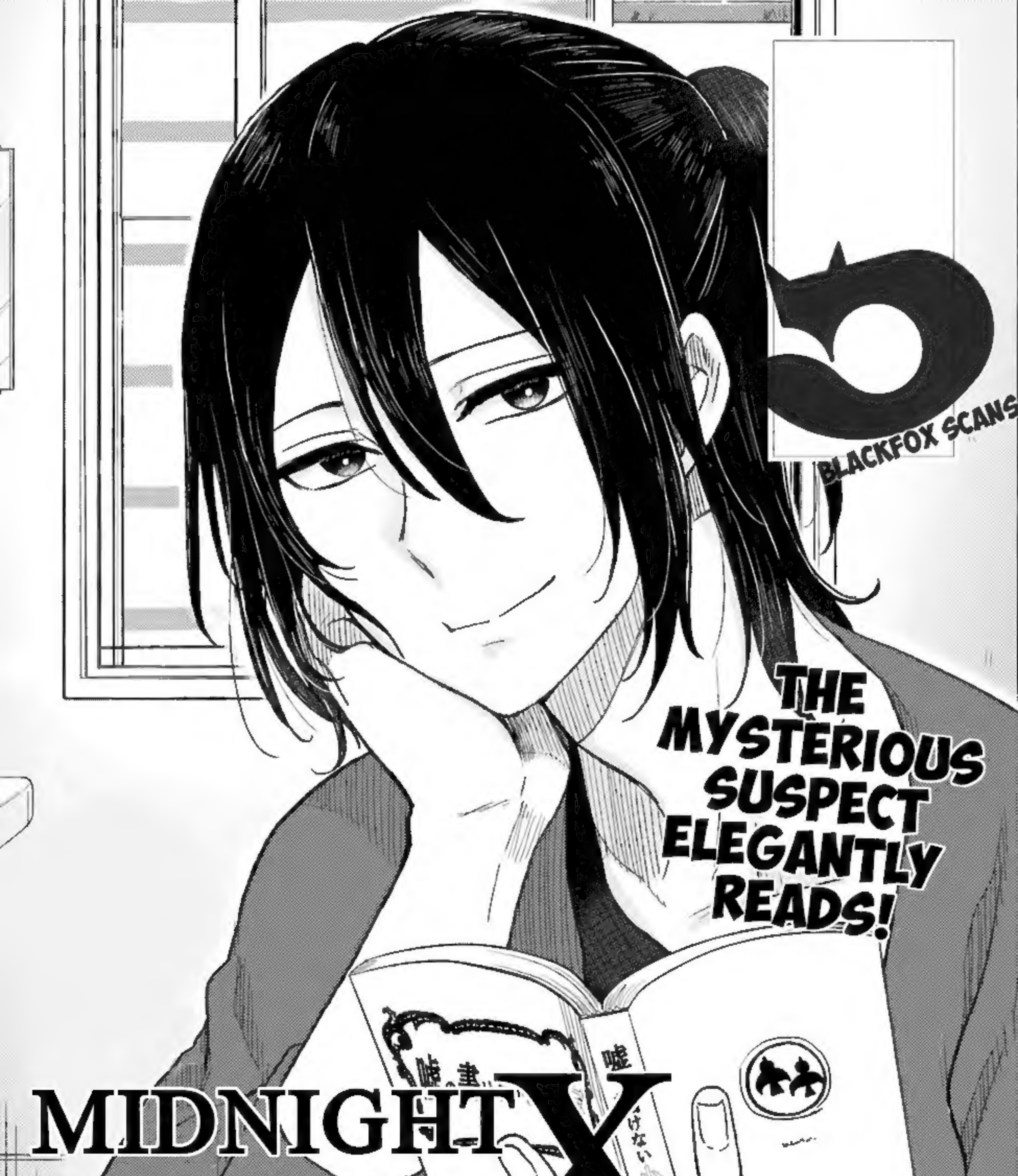
GHOST BLADE
HI, GUY'S I AM SOON GONNA GET BUSY WITH SCHOOL AND THE RELEASES WILL PROBABLY WILL TAKE 2 MONTHS FROM NOW ON . IF SOMEONE IS INTRESETED PLEASE HELP NEED A REDRAWER AND A TYPESETTER AND JUST TO SAY 10TH CHAPTER HAS ALREADY BEEN RELEASED.
MORE PEOPLE = FASTER RELEASES
JOIN US AT BFS


BLACKFOX SCANS
THE MYSTERIOUS SUSPECT ELEGANTLY READS!
嘘
MIDNIGHT MEDTHODX
#09: A Kind Man
STORY / YAMAGUCHI MIKOTO
ART / BAREISHO

OH, AND PLEASE DON'T EVEN THINK OF ACCIDENTALLY FOLLOWING ME.

BY ALL MEANS, USE ALL THE WISDOM AND POWER AT YOUR DISPOSAL

IT IS RARE FOR A GAME TO INTRIGUE ME SO. WERE YOU TO RUIN IT, I WOULD SIMPLY HAVE TO DESTROY THIS BODY AND DISCARD IT.

TO FIND ME, X.

SLAM!

HEH...

!?

H-HEY! WHAT'S WRONG? THIS ISN'T A LAUGHING MATTER!

BATHUMP!

AHAHA HAHA HAHA HA-HA

HAHA HAHA

.....

THEN WHAT LOOK SHOULD I HAVE ON MY FACE?

AND THAT A MEMBER OF MY FAMILY DID *SOMETHING* TO MY SISTER.

TODAY, IN A SPAN OF SO FEW HOURS, I'VE LEARNED THAT I WAS NOT MY FAMILY'S KILLER,

THAT THE TRUE CULPRIT IS SOME BEING WHO USED MY SISTER'S BODY,

PLEASE, LAUGH WITH ME. LAUGH AT THIS FOOL WHO SAID HE LOVED HIS FAMILY,

EVEN THOUGH HE KNEW NOTHING AND WAS BLIND TO EVERYTHING AROUND HIM...

...ALL THAT INFORMATION, IN THE SPAN OF A SINGLE CONVERSATION ...

WHAT CAN I DO BUT LAUGH?

THERE'S NO WAY I COULD LAUGH!

BUT YOU KNOW... THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT THE FAMILY WHO LOVED YOU

WAS NOTHING MORE THAN AN ILLUSION.

CLENCH

YES, SOMETHING MIGHT'VE HAPPENED IN YOUR HOME THAT YOU WEREN'T AWARE OF...

SOME CIRCUMSTANCES THAT TRULY MADE YOUR SISTER, AI, WANT TO KILL HER FAMILY.

I CAN'T LAUGH AT SOMEONE WHO'S HAD THAT HAPPEN TO HIM!

THAT LOVING FAMILY WAS KILLED BY SOME INCOMPREHENSIBLE BEING,

AND, TO TOP IT ALL OFF, HE KIDNAPPED YOUR PRECIOUS SISTER...!

IT'S JUST...

HUGS

PFT.

AHAHAH AHAHAHA HAHA!

WH.. WHAT THE HELL? STOP LAUGHING SO MUCH!

DID YOU HIT YOUR HEAD WHEN I SWEPT YOUR LEGS OUT FROM UNDER YOU EARLIER?

SLOWLY

SURPRI-SINGLY YOU'RE SUCH A KIND MAN...

EDN: NOPE IT'S NOT YAOI.. IT ISN'T NO MATTER WHAT MY BRAIN THINKS

HUH..?! WHAT ARE YOU...

IF I WERE A GIRL, I DON'T THINK I WOULD BE ABLE TO LEAVE A BOY LIKE YOU ALONE...

AHH.. COME TO THINK OF IT, RIGHT NOW, I AM A WOMAN.

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING IN OTHER PEOPLE'S BODIES?!

HUFF

.....

FIRST THINGS FIRST: I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

WH... WH-WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!! HECK, RIGHT NOW, HE'S KAEDE, AND...

...WAIT— THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM HERE!!!

HEY, MIKUNI-KUN. YOU'RE A LITTLE EARLY.

I WAS A HAIR'S BREADTH AWAY FROM USING YOUR BODY TO STEAL HIS LIPS... A PITY, TRULY.

"HIROKI" ...? NO HONORIFIC? THAT WAS SUDDEN!

SIGH

HEY, HIROKI, YOU...

IN THE END, I GUESS YOU'LL ACT KIND TO JUST ABOUT ANYONE!!

WE'RE HEADING BACK!!

REGARDLESS!

I'LL ASK FOR DETAILS LATER!

HMPH

HUH? WHY ARE YOU MAD...?

SOMETIMES, KINDNESS IS A CRIME

TAP

Hah... Being in a boy's body is so disgusting...

TWITCH

TWITCH

IF WE DON'T, IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE KAEDE LOSES IT...

O... OKAY...

I SEE...

SEVERAL DAYS LATER

WE KNOW KIRISHIMA SACHI WASN'T THE ONE WHO MURDERED YOUR SISTER..

FLAP

DID ALL THAT HAPPEN WHILE I WAS ASLEEP?

AND HIROKI, NOTHING HE SAID WAS A LIE?

YEAH, IT'S ALL TRUE. I WAS READING KIRISHIMA'S HEART IN YOUR BODY THE WHOLE TIME HE WAS TALKING, SO...

YES... THEN, AT ANY RATE...

FLAP

SO... FOR NOW, LET'S TRY TO MAKE SENSE OF THE SITUATION.

FIRST, THERE'S THE MURDER OF THE KIRISHIMA FAMILY.

THE CULPRIT, WHO CALLS HIMSELF "X," IS INSIDE AI'S BODY.

HE COMMITTED THE CRIME USING HER BODY.

NOD...

AFTER THE CRIME, X REMAINED IN HER BODY, TELLING THE POLICE THE CULPRIT WAS SACHI, PINNING THE BLAME ON HIM.

WHEN I LOOKED AT HIM USING MIKUNI-KUN'S ABILITY TO READ MINDS,

I SAW IN THERE TWO PERSONALITIES.

BASICALLY, THAT MEANS AI AND X'S SOULS WERE BOTH IN ONE FLESH.

WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT X...

FIRST, HE DOESN'T SWAP BODIES WITH A PERSON— HE ENTERS THEM ALONGSIDE THE ORIGINAL PERSONALITY...

AT THE TIME, DID YOU SEE ANY CLUES HINTING AS TO WHO X IS?

UNFORTUNATELY...

ALL I WAS ABLE TO SEE WAS A SLIVER OF AI'S CONSCIOUSNESS ...

IT WAS LIKE A CLUMP OF UNEQUIVOCAL HATRED...

!!?

THEN THERE'S X'S OBJECTIVE. ACCORDING TO HIM,

HE ENTERS THE BODY OF A PARTICIPANT IN THE CROSS ACT

AND FULFILLS SOME DESIRE

THAT THE HOST CANNOT FULFILL HIM- OR HERSELF.

WOULD THAT MEAN... THAT YOU YOURSELF WISHED FOR YOUR SISTER'S DEATH?

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN X SAID THAT HE ACTS TO FULFILL HIS HOST'S AMBITIONS...

I DON'T WANT TO PICTURE AI WANTING OUR FAMILY DEAD...

BUT THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOME SORT OF T

AFTER ALL, SOMETHING WENT ON IN MY HOME THAT I KNEW NOTHING ABOUT...

YOU HAD A REALLY STRONG REACTION.

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN I DREAMED OF WHAT LIFE WOULD BE LIKE WITHOUT HER...

I WANT TO TELL YOU NO... BUT I THINK I'D BE LYING...

?
?
Yep, yep
Yep, yep
WHAT...?
WH...
I NEVER SERIOUSLY WANTED MY SISTER DEAD...
BUT I —!
WE UNDERSTAND, HIROKI. WE KNOW YOU'RE NOT THE KIND OF GUY WHO WOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THAT!
PAT
THAT'S RIGHT, HIROKI. WE KNOW FULL WELL THAT YOU'RE A HOPELESSLY KIND MAN.

YEP, THAT'S RIGHT. I CALLED HIM BY NAME.

GRIN

GRIN

WAIT A SECOND, DID YOU JUST CALL HIM "HIROKI"?

WAAA WAAA

HH!!

WAA

HHHHH

THAT'S RIGHT, MKUNI. WEREN'T YOU AND I COUPLED LIKE THAT?

DON'T GET FULL OFYOUR-SELF JUST 'CAUSE YOU'VE CLEARED YOURSELF FROM SUSPICION!

AREN'T YOU ACTING A LITTLE TOO FAMILIAR?

ARE YOU TRYING TO CREATE A MISUNDER-STANDING?!

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? HE AND I HAVE ALREADY *GONE OUT TOGETHER*... RIGHT?

[SFX]: ST-ST-ST-ST-!

HE *HASN'T* BEEN ACTING ON PURPOSE THIS WHOLE TIME?

DAMN... HE'S A COMPLETE AIRHEAD!!

The nurse, the lawyer, they all went running away

IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS. ALL I WANT IS TO BECOME CLOSE WITH EVERYONE, BUT EVERYONE ALWAYS REJECTS ME...

?

JOO

->SFX<-: STREAMING SWEAT

ダラ

ダラ

ダラ

LET'S GET THIS CONVER-SATION BACK ON TRACK...

KIRISHIMA SACHI

MIKURIYA MIKUNI

KAMIYA HIROKI

FIVE UNKN-OWNS ONE OF THEM IS X?

UNKNOWN / ADULT / MALE / PATIENT?

UNKNOWN

UNKNOWN

UNKNOWN

UNKNOWN

FIRST: IT'S HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT THE MURDERER OF HIROKI'S SISTER IS X.

IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT X PARTICIPATED IN THE SAME CROSS ACT ALL OF US DID.

THERE'S TWO THINGS WE'VE FIGURED OUT SO FAR.

THE SECOND THING

IS THAT, TO MAKE EVERYTHING CLEAR...

I HAVE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MIDNIGHT CROSS METHOD.

DON'T BE SO DISTANT. CALL ME SACHI.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, KIRISHIMA?

Aren't we friends?

WHAT A NUISANCE... SO... SACHI, HOW ABOUT YOU?

I'VE NEVER PARTICIPATED.

ALL I KNOW IS THAT IT'S A MASQUERADE BALL THAT ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE SWAPPED BODIES ARE ALLOWED TO ATTEND.

...THAT'S ALL.

SO THEN... HOW MUCH DO YOU TWO ACTUALLY KNOW ABOUT THE MIDNIGHT CROSS METHOD?

HAVE YOU EVER PARTICIPATED, EVEN ONCE?

AND WHERE...

IT WIL_ BE HELD NEXT.

HOWEVER, I DO KNOW...

WHEN...

I, TOO,

HAVE NEVER PARTIC.PATED...

DIDN'T I TELL YOU BEFORE?

I HAVE MYSELF AN ACCOMPLICE.

WAIT A SECOND.

I'VE BEEN THINKING—WHY DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH WHEN YOU'RE STUCK INSIDE THESE WALLS?

REALLY ...?

AND IT'S WE.RD HOW YOU HAVE ONE OF THE RITUAL CARDS.

AND WHEN WE F RST MET, YOU INSTANTLY REA_ZED WE HAD SWITCHED BODIES...

!!?

→SFX←: SPITTAKE!

OH.

BY THE WAY, IN PICTURE FORM, THE PERSON IS LIKE THIS.

THAT PERSON APPEARED SOON AFTER I WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY HERE.

CARD

→SFX←: FLIP

AND THEN, I ACTUALLY EXCHANGED BODIES.

SO, FOR THE TIME BEING, I DECIDED TO TRUST WHAT THE PERSON HAD TO SAY.

AT FIRST, OF COURSE, I DIDN'T BELIEVE IN BODY SWITCHING.

THAT PERSON TOLD ME THAT THE CROSS ACT WAS THE CAUSE OF MY INCIDENT...

THEN, SOME DAYS LATER, THE PERSON GAVE ME THIS CARD, SAYING, "YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF YOU DO IT YOURSELF."

JUST... WHO WAS THIS PERSON?

AFTERWARDS, THE PERSON WENT ON TO TELL ME MANY MORE THINGS,

SUCH AS CROSS ACTS AND CROSS ABILITIES.

IT WAS ALMOST LIKE A PREDICTION SAYING THAT PEOPLE SWITCHING BODIES WOULD COME TO VISIT ME.

THE PERSON CLAIMED ...

TO BE THE FIRST PERSON TO SWAP BODIES...

I MUST SEVER THIS CHAIN OF TRAGEDY!"

AND SO THE PERSON SAID TO ME, "I MUST SAVE THOSE WHO WERE BROUGHT MISFORTUNE BY BODY SWITCHING;

THANKS TO YOUR PICTURE, IT'S HARD TO FEEL THE PROPER MOOD.

->SFX<-: BAM!

...IF TRUE, THAT MEANS THAT PERSON THOUGHT UP THE IDEA, RIGHT?

BUT I GOT THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT THE PERSON WAS THE TRIGGER FOR ONE SERIES OF BODY SWITCHES.

THE PERSON NEVER SAID IT IN EXACTLY THOSE WORDS...

I KNOW THE TIME, DATE, AND PLACE WHERE IT'S NEXT BEING HELD, BUT...

ACTUALLY GOING WOULD INCUR FAIRLY HEAVY R.SKS.

BECAUSE X WI... SURELY BE THERE, YEAH.

HAS THE "ACCOMPLICE" OF YOURS TOLD YOU ANYTHING ABOUT THE MIDNIGHT CROSS METHOD?

ABOUT THAT...

X SAID THAT THE CROSS METHOD IS SOMETHING LIKE A MASQUERADE BALL.

THERE IS THAT, OF COURSE... BUT NO.

THE PROBLEM IS MORE FUNDAMENTAL.

IT IS WHERE PARTICIPANTS AMUSE THEMSELVES FOR A NIGHT BY COVERING THEIR FACES IN MASK, TEMPORARILY DISCARDING THEIR STATUS, AND BECOMING SOMEONE THEY ARE NOT.

AND HOW IS IT THAT THEY "AMUSE" THEMSELVES?

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT ONE DOES AT A MASQUERADE BALL?

TO BE BLUNT ...

THEY HAVE SEX.

A WOMAN CAN BECOME A MAN

AND EXPERIENCE THE MADDENING DESIRE AND RELEASE THAT ONLY A MAN CAN POSSESS...

FOR INSTANCE... A MAN CAN BECOME A WOMAN

AND ENJOY THE ULTIMATE STIMULATION THAT ONLY A WOMAN CAN KNOW;

THE MIDNIGHT CROSS METHOD IS A PARTY WHERE ONE CAN EXPERIENCE PLEASURE IN ANOTHER PERSON'S BODY

THAT ONE NEVER COULD IN ONE'S OWN.

IN OTHER WORDS,

CAN TWO PEOPLE AS GREEN AS YOU TWO SUCCEED IN SUCH A PLACE?

N... NO!

IT'S NOT BECAUSE I WANT TO HAVE SEX, GOT IT?!

STARE

E... EVEN SO, I'M GOING TO PARTI-CIPATE!!

EDN: THE MOST EPIC STARE EVER LOL

THERE ISN'T...?

AND THERE'S NO MORE TIME TO WAIT.

YES... I THOUGHT YOU WOULD SAY THAT.

TO BE HONEST, I WISH I COULD MEET WITH MY "ACCOMPLICE" ONE MORE TIME AND ASK FOR SOME WORDS OF ADVICE...

BUT THERE IS NO WAY TO KNOW WHEN NEXT THAT PERSON WILL COME.

I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT THE PARTY IS ALWAYS HELD AT THE SAME PLACE,

AND THERE'S NO GUARANTEE MY ACCOMPLICE WILL EVER RETURN HERE.

AND I ONLY KNOW THE PLACE WHERE THE PARTY IS BEING HELD TWO DAYS FROM NOW.

WE HAVE... TO MAKE A DECISION.

THE NEXT MIDNIGHT CROSS METHOD WILL BE TAKING PLACE AT MIDNIGHT TWO DAYS HENCE.

I'M OBVIOUSLY PARTICI-PATING!

I'M GOING TOO, OF COURSE!!

THAT MEANS THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IS BY SWAPPING BODIES WITH ME!

H... HEY, WAIT A SECOND. WEREN'T YOU LISTENING?

IT'S GONNA BE PRETTY DANGEROUS THERE! THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TAKE YOU THERE!

.....!

YOU IDIOT! WERE YOU LISTENING YOURSELF?

ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE SWITCHED BODIES CAN PARTICIPATE.

SO IN OTHER WORDS, THAT MEANS YOU'RE USING MY BODY...

YOU SURE YOU CAN KEEP IT SAFE?

BECAUSE I THINK I CAN TTRUST YOU TO KEEP IT SAFE,

HIROKI.

...OF COURSE ...

I WON'T LET ANYONE LAY ONE FINGER ON YOUR BODY.

-SFX-: NOD

BUT UNFORT-UNATELY...

OH, YOU TWO LOVEBIRDS ARE SO WONDERFUL!

ピク!

AND ME.

PARTICIPATING IN THE CROSS METHOD WILL BE HIROKI...

MIKUNI-KUN CANNOT PARTICIPATE.

?

→SFX←: SQUEAK

OH—IT WOULD BE MORE ACCURATE TO SAY THAT MIKUNI-KUN'S SOUL WILL HAVE TO WATCH THE HOME.

→SFX←: TAP

IT'S THE ONLY WAY. I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHERE IT'S TAKING PLACE.

WHY'S THAT?!

FURTHERMORE, THE PLACE DOESN'T HAVE A PROPER ADDRESS, SO TELLING YOU ITS LOCATION WOULD BE TRYING.

YOU THINK YOU CAN MAKE ME DRAW A PICTURE?!

JUST DRAW US A MAP!!T

DON'T TAKE THAT OUT! THAT'S DIRTY!!

HA-

AND PERSONALLY, I HAVE A MAJOR GOAL HERE: RECOVERING MY SISTER'S BODY.

THERE'S NO WAY I'M SITTING THIS OUT.

THERE ARE ONLY *TWO* *CHOICES.*

IF YOU INVOLVED YOUR FRIEND'S BODY AND WORST CAME TO WORST— IF SOMETHING DANGEROUS HAPPENED— COULD ANYONE BESIDES HIROKI KEEP IT SAFE?

THEN I'LL HAVE KAEDE LEND YOU HER BOD—

YOU SHOULD PROBABLY STOP WITH THAT.

IN THE BEST OF TIMES, GOING THERE IN A WOMAN'S BODY IS A DANGEROUS ACT...

PARTICIPATING IN THE MIDNIGHT CROSS METHOD

THE SECOND IF FOR ME TO ENTER MIKUNI-KUN'S BODY, MIKUNI-KUN TO ENTER HIROKI'S,

AND FOR HIROKI TO ENTER MINE.

STAYING HOME

PARTICIPATING IN THE MIDNIGHT CROSS METHOD

THE FIRST IS TO HAVE ME ENTER HIROKI'S BODY, HIROKI ENTER MIKUNI-KUN'S,

AND THEN FOR MIKUNI-KUN TO ENTER MINE...

STAYING HOME

THOSE ARE THE ONLY TWO.

WELL, THERE IS ALSO THE OPTION TO WAIT UNTIL NEXT TIME.

MMNNNNNNNNNNNNNN...

AS OUR HELPER, MIKUNI-KUN, YOU SHOULD DECIDE.

TWO DAYS LATER,

ON THE DAY OF THE MIDNIGHT CROSS METHOD

PRECISELY.

HEY, HEY... THEY'RE REALLY DOING IT HERE?

YES... WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE LOVERS...

R... RIGHT. LET'S GO...

IT'S ABOUT TIME. SHALL WE?

BUT YOU WERE CERTAINLY RIGHT—THIS PLACE DOESN'T HAVE AN *ADDRESS.*

RIGHT?

TO THE MIDNIGHT CROSS METHOD

NOW, TO THE PARTY WHERE X AWAITS!

TRANSLATION/DOWOLF
EDITING/AGNIR

BLACKFOX SCANS